बुनियादी ढांचे की सहायता के लिये निम्नलिखित दो योजनाएं भी चला रहा है :—

(1) राज्यों को राज सहायता प्राप्त दरों पर (50:50 के आधार पर) शहतूत की कलमों की सप्लाई ।

(2) किसान नर्सरी कार्यक्रमों के अन्तर्गत राजसहायता प्राप्त दरों (50:50 के आधार पर) किसानों को शहतूत की पौध की सप्लाई ।

Permission to Multinational Companies to enter Agriculture Sector

1281. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to permit the multinational companies to enter agriculture sector; if so, the details of the proposal;

(b) the specific sectors of agriculture where these will be permitted to enter; and

(c) what impact such a move will have on the industry in general and agro-based industries in particular ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Since 1986 MRTP/FERA companies have been permitted to enter in the area of certified high yielding seeds. In the New Industrial Policy, 1991 seed was considered a high priority industry for automatic approval of venture with 51% foreign equity.

(c) It is envisaged that this will improve the availability of raw material for agro-based industry and ultimately have a favourable impact on industrial development in general.

Agricultural Universities in the Country

1282. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Agricultural Universities, Agricultural and Veterinary Colleges, State-wise in the country;

(b) whether these institutes are adequate;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to start private Agricultural and Veterinary Colleges by giving permission to Charitable Trusts or Institutes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Sir, A statement is enclosed. (see below)

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) Does not arise